

BABSON ON COTTON BELT

FAMOUS STATISTICIAN MAKES AN ANALYSIS OF THE SOUTHERN SITUATION.

In view of the sensational reports relative to conditions in the South, especially due to the boll-weevil, Roger W. Babson has been asked to make an analysis of the Southern situation as it now appears from the viewpoint of a statistician. Mr. Babson's statement is as follows:

"In the so-called 'cotton belt,' which stretches across many of the Southern States, is produced 60 per cent of the world's supply of cotton. In fact, this cotton crop has been so important that the South has practically given its entire attention to cotton and this became a 'one crop' country. The boll-weevil is now destroying a large percentage of this cotton crop, so that in many sections only one bale of cotton is gathered where two were originally produced. Of course, great efforts are being made to control the boll-weevil, and science will ultimately find a solution to this problem. In the meantime, however, there are several factors to be considered.

"First, our supply of cotton will be greatly reduced until this weevil is controlled. The amount produced for the next few years may not be more than half of the requirements of former years. This means that high prices may be expected both for raw cotton and for all manufactured cotton goods for some time to come.

"Secondly, the South, which has been a 'one crop' country will be forced to raise other crops and become at least self-supporting. In previous years the South has imported from the Middle West nearly all the corn and a large proportion of the meat which it has consumed. This year, the South has raised sufficient corn for its own use. It is also successfully rearing itself of the 'tick' which is so detrimental to raising good cattle. Herds of fine stock are rapidly increasing, and the South, which has an ideal climate for a year-long stock raising, should soon be one of the most important stock raising sections of the country. This means that the Middle West will have a serious competitor in corn and stock raising.

"The third factor to consider is that the South will steadily increase its manufacture of cotton into finished goods. Already it is shipping large quantities of these manufactured cotton goods into the northern states. These Southern mills can produce very economically and are at the source of the raw materials. This means that the cotton mills of the northern states will have serious competition. Owing to the present immigration restrictions, these northern mills will soon be greatly handicapped as to labor supply which fact should also aid the South.

"A fourth factor is that the southern farmers are employing less labor on their farms than under previous conditions, many of them reducing labor one half. The reason is that the farmers are planting a larger acreage in corn, hay, and other crops and less acreage in cotton. These other crops require less labor to work than cotton does. Today there is a very considerable unemployment of farm labor in the South. This means that there will be ample labor for cotton mills and other forms of manufacturing, and for the development of natural resources.

"Fifth and finally, the South is reducing its need of effort and struggle in order to hold its economic position. The boll-weevil is forcing upon it a new economic condition which it is now bravely struggling to meet. I believe it has the will to meet these new conditions, but it needs capital. The South has large undeveloped resources. It has coal, mineral deposits, and water power. Its seaport cities have good harbors which are strategically located for commerce with Latin America and Southern Europe. Thus as the South more fully realizes and grasps the opportunities which it holds, it will grow and develop rapidly into commercial importance. This means that during the next few years the South will offer many very attractive opportunities for the investor. Just at present the South is hard hit by the boll-weevil but this very fact is bringing it to a realization of its needs and opportunities. Thus, within a few years, a new economic condition should be established and the South should be more prosperous than at any time in the past.

The Babsonchart index dropped off one point this week, standing now at 4 per cent below normal. This recession, however, has no special significance. Further advance should be expected during the coming month.

WEATHER SUMMARY

The weather summary for the month of October as given out yesterday by F. L. Delavan, local cooperative observer, shows a mean maximum temperature of 60 degrees for the month with a mean minimum of 32 degrees. The maximum was 87 degrees and the minimum 22 degrees, this being on October 20th. The total precipitation for the month was 2.48 inches, the greatest amount in 24 hours being 1.4 inches on October 7. There was only a trace of snowfall during the month. On 10 days .01 or more inches of precipitation fell. There were 16 clear days, 4 part cloudy and 11 cloudy days during the month.

Circulation counts—we have it.

Local News

Sheriff Alfred T. Willet of Ithaca was in the city on business Friday. Major Strom of Grand Rapids was in the city on business Wednesday. You will find the best bread in Butter Cup wrappers—advertisement.

Little Miss Charlene Parke is visiting her aunt an uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Paul McKee, of this city.

Dr. E. G. Slayter, osteopathic physician, State Savings Bank Building, Alma, both phones—advertisement.

Dr. J. N. Day, William Rogers and William Horton left this morning for the northern peninsula on a hunting trip.

Verne Richards, assistant coach at Alma College, attended the Hillsdale-Albion game at Hillsdale, Saturday.

The Child's Conservation League will meet Monday evening, November 6, at 8:00 o'clock with Mrs. R. C. Datto, 231 Philadelphia avenue.

Miss Esther Dunham, who is teaching in Battle Creek, spent the week end in this city, with her mother, Mrs. H. M. Dunham, and brother, Homer Dunham.

President H. M. Crooks has returned from a trip to Wilkes Barre, Pa., and other eastern points. In Wilkes Barre he conducted a teachers' institute, and later spoke at Wyoming Seminary, to the teachers at Nanticoke and before the men's club of the Presbyterian Church of Kingston.

The Gratiot County Good Health Society wishes to express its thanks to the school for the great aid rendered in preparing the clothes that were made for the health society's play.

Mrs. G. B. Porter received word Tuesday of the serious illness of her sister, Mrs. Allen Adams. Mrs. Adams had been obliged to undergo a very serious operation and her condition was critical.

A large number of the members of the adult classes of East Superior Christian Church held a masked Halloween party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Markham Tuesday evening. Games, a party sing, and refreshments of doughnuts, pumpkin pie and coffee were features of the evening's activities. The Loyal Workers class were hostesses.

Mrs. E. H. Wolfe entertained the members of Robinson's Store Club at her home Wednesday evening in honor of Mrs. Campbell, who leaves the employ of D. W. Robinson, Saturday.

Mrs. Campbell will be greatly missed from the store where she has been a conscientious clerk for the past three years. Mrs. Campbell was presented with a present as an expression of esteem from the fellow workers and associates.

A number of full pay college students wanted to see the Olivet-Alma game at Olivet, Saturday and not being able to procure conveyance at their own expense to "huff" it. They were all lucky enough to catch ride in motor coaches, however, and arrived in time for the contest. Two of the men "bumped" rides from Alma to Ithaca, then from Ithaca to Lansing, and then from Lansing to Olivet. They arrived just an hour after the team hit the little Crimson Burg.

Took Two Days Then; Only Two Hours Now

"The world is moving" if we are to believe all that our friend Simon says, and even after having known him all of these years we are still prone to give him the benefit of the doubt on most occasions at least.

Growing reminiscent recently he compared the time that it took him to travel to Alma from St. John, when he came 31 years ago and the time that it now takes.

What? You ask who Simon is? There's only one honest to goodness Simon around these parts, our old cheerful, happy-go-lucky, inclined to be lightfingered Simon Messen-ser.

Well, as we started in to remark growing reminiscent the other day our old friend harkened back to the days of old when there were no buses, no automobiles, and no nothing evidently to aid the pioneers in clearing up a wilderness. Then Simon remarked that when he came to Alma 31 years ago from St. John it took two days to make the trip.

He arrived in St. John on Friday and was forced to wait until Monday to get a stage. The first day of the trip was made as far as Bridgeville. On the second day the stage was lucky to make to Alma by night fall. Compare that with the two hour trip that is now taken by bus.

Back in those days Gratiot was known by the name of "Starving Gratiot", and it is related that at that time beef and other meats were very scarce. It was probably at this time that the story is told about Simon at the Bridgeville tavern, now only a memory of pioneer days. Beef was almost unobtainable. The innkeeper had a small piece, and at breakfast time would tie it to a string and drop it over the table from a rafter. Simon, unusually hungry, so the report goes, made an extra desperate attempt to more than lick his chops on it, and down it went until only the string could be seen. The innkeeper, alarmed at the loss of his precious beef gave a tug at the string and pulled it forth, wrapped it up carefully and saved it for the next day.

All of which goes to show that we are living in a much more rapid and nerve racking period than did our fathers before us.

You have our thanks. They cost nothing.

Food Packages Gladden Hearts of Children and Aged in Russia



A Russian food remittance may be only a yellow slip of paper to the purchaser in America. Something to be filed away with other ten-dollar receipts—with the paid bills for electric lights, telephone, piano installment, or room rent. But to the one who receives the notification from Moscow that 120 pounds of American flour, cereals, and fats are awaiting his order and will be forwarded, or delivered on call, at any one of twenty-three American Relief Administration food remittance stations in Russia, this slip of paper becomes a document of inestimable worth.

By means of its magic power, brothers and sisters can be held together, children restored to strength, young people enabled to remain in school, mothers can regain courage, and grandparents need no longer feel that they are a burden in the home. Bright, growing children, like this affectionate brother and sister of Alexandrovsk in the Ukraine, have blossomed into health and hope as the result of this American-sent food. Old men, like this aged monk of north Russia, have had hearts gladdened because the son or daughter in the New World did not forget.

The Food Remittance plan which proved so successful in Central and Eastern Europe in 1920-1921 has been a major godsend to Russia. Any person or organization may purchase a Food Remittance for ten dollars and specific to whom the food shall be delivered in Russia. In many cases Food Remittances have been the means of restoring communication between relatives separated for six or eight years by the war and its resultant migrations.

The magnitude of this business flowing from the hearts and purses of America to the empty larders of Russian homes is almost unbelievable. It is measured only by the gratitude of the families that have been blessed. From January 1 to October 1 the Food Remittance Department of the American Relief Administration, 42 Broadway, New York City, announced sales totaling \$8,094,870, which conducted a feeding program reaching 10,500,000 persons each day until the harvest came in. The A. R. A. will continue the feeding of 1,300,000 children in Russia in order to help wipe out the effects of famine's aftermath this winter. The Food Remittance deliveries will be continued to aid the many adult sufferers. Gifts to individuals or general relief through these remittances will be received at the New York headquarters.

The quota of each of the local organizations was \$87,500. Although the men overabundant, they have been somewhat dilatory about the payment of their pledges. The girls, on the other hand have paid their quota in full. Any unpaid money will be received either by Avis Lane or Ellen Lamant, and it is hoped that when the Chinese girl enters next semester, all the money will be turned in.

ALMA TO ENROLL CHINESE STUDENT

MISS KWONG CHUNG HSIEN IS EXPECTED TO ENTER HERE NEXT SEMESTER.

Rumors that Alma was to have a Chinese student this fall have elicited friendly interest and curiosity among college people. However, very little has been heard about when she will arrive. During the summer conference of 1931, at Lake Geneva, Mich. Field and Helen Brien became acquainted with the girl's sister and it was through the combined efforts of these two girls that the Y. W. and Y. M. C. A. became interested. The girl's name is Kwong Chung Hsien and she is about twenty years old. It is her intention to come to Alma for at least a year to prepare for medical work. When she has completed the work, she plans to return to her people in the capacity of a medical missionary.

All communication has been done through her sister, Emily who is attending the University of Iowa, and Avis Lane, president of the local Y. W. Miss Lane states that Emily asked that the Y. W. forward her the money for her passage. When she was told that the organization had not the money to lend she sent the Y. W. an assortment of lace to be sold in order to obtain the passage money. These laces are to be offered for sale at a tea, to be given the latter part of next week. It is the purpose of the local organization to pay the cost of tuition and board and room, and it was for this fund that the drive was made last semester.

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New Weapon Against Mice.
A way to kill mice (without cats) has been discovered in Australia. A powder recently was tested by sprinkling wheat with it and fastening hungry mice in the bins; mice died without eating the grain.

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Contain no dangerous habit-forming drugs. Why don't you try them?

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